

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Glenn Massina on January 13, 2010.

The application has been amended as follows: In the abstract submitted 9/21/06, at line 5, change the word "means" to - - way- -.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art fails to disclose a system for driver support carrying out assist functions in a motor vehicle for supporting a driver of the motor vehicle in stopping and starting maneuvers, the assist functions being activated depending on" a first comparison between at least one driving state variable and a first threshold value; at least one first actuating signal from an actuating means operable by the driver; or a combination thereof, the system comprising: a control unit configured to: determine a vehicle state by means of: a second comparison between at least one driving state variable with a second threshold value; at least one second actuating signal from the actuating means operable by the driver; or a combination thereof; check whether at least one assist function is activated; and control a brake system of the motor vehicle depending on a determined vehicle

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state when the at least one assist function is activated. These limitations are neither taught nor obvious by the prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to GERTRUDE ARTHUR JEANGLAUD whose telephone number is (571)272-6954. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas Black can be reached on (571) 272-6956. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Gertrude Arthur-Jeanglaude/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3661